By M. QUAD

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The county of Vernon in a certain middle state was at peace. Farmers. mechanics and merchants met each other and asked: "How is old Vernon county?"

And the answer would be: "Old Vernon county is all right-you

Fifty men saw X. M. Davis, as he came to be known, when the bus drove up to the inn at Clifton with him as the only passenger. He was a middle

aged man, and he had the face of a true American patriot. He had come to give Vernon county such a chance to get rich as had never been held out to her before. Years ago his grandfather had died and had been buried in that county, and it was consecrated ground to him. That is why he had come to it instead of any other county. Mr. Davis had come to Clifton direct

from Europe. He had gone over there to study the agriculture of the country at his own expense. He had returned with what might be called a great find. The Belgians were almost secretly growing a specimen of cucumber that was bound to revolutionize the world. It was amazingly prolific.

One acre of ground would grow 5,000 cucumbers, each three feet long and weighing five pounds.

It was like eating oranges. It was a breakfast food in itself. It left behind it an exhibaration not known to any other vegetable in the world.

This cucumber was certain to take the place of grains of all sort in a year or two more and would displace the potato and the turnip entirely.

Mr. Davis did more than talk and exhibit seeds. He put \$50 cash in bank as a prize to the person raising the most Belgian cucumbers the next spring or summer. It was November then. Between November and April Mr. Davis sold over \$3,000 worth of seeds and received his money for them.

When he went away he went boldly. and he left the prize money in the bank. By so doing he escaped all sus-

picion. Now came a mystery. In Clifton lived a widow named Lee. She had been there only two years, and the people knew little about her. She was nearly six feet tail, rugged and strong. and she neighbored with none. She went to Mr. Davis for some seeds, but refused to pay the price. She offered only a penny apiece and when turned down made use of some very strong

April was a forward month in Vernon county, and the cucumber vines were beginning to run by the middle of May. One night some one pulled up and stacked the vines in ten different gardens. They found tracks of a man's boots, but nothing further. The next night more gardens suffered. Just who to suspect was a puzzler. but of course it was a case of jealousy and spite. Every man who had any

vines set a watch on them. Descon Tracy was the first one to report a clew. He had half an acre of vines and was sitting up to watch for the vandal when a man came suddenly upon him and knocked him senseless. When he recovered his wits his vines had been destroyed. Tracks left by a man's boots-that was all.

Of course there were excitement and indignation. A reward of \$5 was offered for the arrest of the marander. and owners of vines as yet untroubled hired watchmen. Then the man of night betook himself out among the farmers. He raided far and wide He destroyed nothing but the cucumber vines, but he did not spare a hill of them that he could get at. He was chased by men and dogs; he was shot at: traps were set for him in twenty different places, yet no one earned that reward.

At Farmer Johnson's place he and his son were hidden in the smokehouse when the unknown appeared. He had scarcely pulled a vine when they were upon him. Both were strong men, but the struggle was over in a minute. The unknown knocked them both stilly and got away with their hats and pieces of their shirts as souvenirs. It was figured that he had got such a scare, however, that he would not appear again. He returned next night when no one was watching and attacked the vines.

The excitment was now at fever hent, and the whole county was asking what should be done, when the marander came to his end. A widow named Jones had twenty hills of vines she was watching. She had an old army carbine, and a neighbor had logded it for her. She was watching from a window, and as the man of night appeared and began his work she fired at him. He dropped, but

struggled up and ran. A hundred men turned out and searched the streets and alleys and the country around, but they did not find the wounded man. They had given up the quest when word went round that no one had seen the Widow Lee for three days. The locked doors of her bouse were broken open, and she was found dead on the floor. A bullet had struck her in the chest-the bullet fired by the other widow. She was dressed as a man from head to heel and had false whiskers besides.

The Relgian cucumbers? Oh, they were a fraud, of course-just plain, everyday American encumbers, with the usual 99 per cent water. It's just as easy to swindle a whole county as it to to swindle a single man. All you have to do is to get a new idea.

September 18 April 19

#### SHAW, THE ECCENTRIC.

His Personality Compels Him to Wear Cocoa Colored Clothes.

"I love order in all things," said George Bernard Shaw at a public meeting some time ago. "For this reason I am not content with ordering my life; I also order my personality. I have cocoa colored hair, so I wear cocoa colored clothes and drink cocoa." Ehaw today has reached the position of becoming a public institution. For more than twenty years be has succeeded in fulfilling his boast that every day some leading paper would have something to say about him.

George Bernard Shaw is the jester at the court of King Demos. When years ago he was appointed dramatic critic to a well known journal be refused to obey the ironclad regulation that occupants of the stalls must wear evening dress. The first night he was stopped at the door of a theater by an attendant. "What do you object to?" inquired Shaw. "My cocoa colored jacket?" The attendant assented. Very well then." said the critic, "I will remove it." And the next moment he was striding up the aisle in his shirt sleeves.

"That won't do, sir!" shouted the at tendant, running after bim.

"Won't do?" exclaimed Shaw with a fine assumption of indignation. "Do you think I'm going to take off any more?" The nonplussed attendant handed him his jacket and Shaw took his seat in the stalls triumphantly.

During the first nine years this brilliant man was in London his earnings from literature brought him the princely sum of £6. Now he has an income of several thousands a year. Of that period which he spent in want he says with his characteristic candor: "My mother worked for my living instead of preaching that it was my duty to work for her: therefore, take off your hat to her and blush. I did not throw myself into the struggle for life; I threw my mother into it. I was not a staff to my father's old age; I hung on to his coat tails."-London Life.

### A CURIOUS LOVE SCENE.

Rochefort Sprang a Surprise on the Troubled Couple.

Rochefort could be very democratic on occasions. I remember an amusing incident which occurred when Rochefort was in London. His French chambermaid fell in love with his English coachman, and they were engaged to be married. John, who never spoke of Rochefort otherwise than as "the marquee," gloomily informed Charlotte that their project must be kept a profound secret, for it was a custom in aristocratic bouses in London that when servants in the same household became engaged to be married they were promptly dismissed. Charlo te could hardly believe this, but John assured her that it was so.

At last Charlotte took her courage in two hands and, dragging the trembling John behind her, advanced into the wesome presence of "the marques" while he was taking coffee after lunch was present and witnessed the scene. Monsieur Rochefort," said the chambermaid boldly, "I have something to tell vou."

Rochefort-Tell me, my child. Charlotte-Jo John, and we want to be married. John went as pale as a sheet.) Does monsieur see any objection?

Rochefort this great blue eyes dance ing with fun, his arms raised in the airi-Objection, my children, objection? What earthly objection can I have? Venez donc que je vous embrasse! Come and let me embrace you.)

And, to the utter amazement of John, he heartily kissed both young lovers on both cheeks.-Westminster Gazette.

### Can't Escape Lime Salts.

In answer to a communication from a lay correspondent, who expresses his belief that "the lime in common water has much to do with bringing on old age," the London Lancet says that while that opinion is common, it is, of course futuous. To those people who believe that water is the only possible channel by which 'ime salts are conveyed to the organism the writer says. Lime salts are inseparable from the dietary there would still be secured a large intake of lime salts, which could only be avoided by a hunger strike."

Woman and Clothes, One can't help thinking what a colorless life a man is forced to lead when one reflects that chiffon and venetion point and hand embroidery and trick crochet are to him mere empty words. whereas a woman, whether she is interested in babies, or microbes, or hasbands, or poetry, or servants, or parallelograms, or gardens, or Plato, or bridge, is fundamentally and always legs," by Jean Webster.

### In a Dilemma.

"What are you crying for, Bobbie?" "Boo hoo! Willie's broke his arm. an' if I lick him all the fellers will say I'm a coward."

Why don't you wait till he's well?" "Boo-boo's I can't lick him then "-St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Picking Up.

"How's collections at your church. Brudder Hambone?"

"Much better since we got a one armed man to pass de plate."-Washington Herald,

Kept the Botter Half,

Algy-You say she only partially returned your affections? Clarence-Yes. She returned all the love letters, but retained all the jewelry .- Brooklyn Cittzen.

# Shadowed

By RUTH GRAHAM

During that period when the late Russian revolution was brewing Sonia Katrovich, a young wife of twenty. lived in St. Petersburg at her home with her husband. They were both members of a secret propaganda embracing many persons whose object

it was to scatter printed thatter intended to awaken the people to their wrongs and incite them to rebellion. There were a number of depositories for this literature, and the home of the Katrovichs was one of them. The police learned of the where-

abouts of one of these depositories and, as was their custom, instead of raiding it at once, set a spy upon it with a view to learning what persons went there, assuming that all visitors were members of the propagands. One morning Mue. Katrovich west to this depository that the police were watching to take some revolutionary literature there. The place was a sin gle room on the third door of a building occupied for various purposes. Having finished her visit. Sonia opened the door suddenly and just in time to see a man dart up the stairs leading to the next story above. She did not see his face nor his clothes sufficiently to mark him, but she knew instinctively what had happened. The depository had been discovered by the police and she would be shadowed to her home. Retaining her presence of mind, she continued on her way, knocking at different doors as though looking for some one. Receiving a negative answer to her question, she passed down and out of the building.

Either she must outwit the spy or both she and her husband must spend the rest of their lives in Siberia. She must not go home, and she must contrive to make her husband aware of what had happened. To gain time she visited certain shops. The first shop she entered a man followed her inside and looked over articles with the pretense of buying. Sonia suspected him. but was not sure that he was her shadower till be followed her into another

After Sonia had visited several stores she felt at liberty to enter one kept by one Petrof, a member of the propaganda, without necessarily betraying him. Calling on him for some gloves, while trying them on informed him of the situation that he might at once get word of the danger to her husband and he might remove the lit-

When she left the store the man who watched her approached her. "Conduct me to your home," he said

"What means this?" she asked, affecting surprise.

After awhile he admitted the truth, and she told him that she had gone to the building for the purpose of finding a former servant of hers, but had been misinformed as to the address.

"I have no objection to taking you to government. But I warn you that I have some very good friends who are influential with the government, and I will not be put to any inconvenience." At this the man assumed a more respectful manner and lifted his hat po-

litely. "I am looking for a certain kind of goods," continued Sonia, "that I need

and shall be obliged to visit one or two stores, then I will take you home with pleasure.

Sonia, being of the better class, was enabled to assume an importance that affected the official. She went into several more shops and kept clerks hunting for the goods she wished. At last she feigned to find exactly what she wanted and on paying for it gave the address of her home, to which it was to be sent. The police official noted the location, pri-king up his cars as she gave it.

It would not suit Sonia's game to keep the man too long. She must take some common, everyday articles of food, so risk. It was nearly two hours after that if hard water were left out of the she had left the menage with Petrof that she told her captor that she was ready to go to her home, and she led him there in a perfectly straight course. But it was all she could do to bear up under the suspense. If her husband had not received her message there was that in store for them for worse than death. As she went up the steps of her house she almost fainted, but with an effort she opened the front door. No one was to be seen. She opened a door leading into another room where her husband sat at a desk writing.

"Well, dear," he said without looking interested in clothes.-"Doldy Louis | up from his work, "you have been gone quite awhite." Then, raising his eyes and seeing his wife's attendant, he appeared surprised. Sonia knew that had he not been warned be would have

doubtless turned pale. "Yes," she said. "I have been delayed in finding the goods I need for my gown."

She then explained her having an ttendant who needed to be satisfied

at they were loyal to the czar. That is very easy," said her husband. "I am at this moment writing a aper on the necessity of the Russian people remaining loyal to the govern-

ment." He handed the unfinished paper to the official and bade him search the house, from which everything Incrim-Insting had been removed. But so well had the game been played that the officer was satisfied and went away without taking any further ac-

#### FIGHTING A FIRE IN IRKUTSK.

A Comedy of Flaming Torches and

Empty Water Wagons. They fight fires in a permittr way in Siberia. First you find the nre The city is plotted into district each with and the engines dash out. The spectator is amused, not so much at the dash as at the engines. They are primitive, and the use of them is more so.

We went to a tire one Sunday afternoon in Irkutsk, continues Mr. Richardson L. Wright in his book "Through Siberia." It was close to our hotel, so that we had an excellent view First came a troika team that dragged a hook and ladder carriage. On the carriage clung the firemen, howling Cossacks with brass belmets jammed down over their ears, who carried in one hand- how the symbolism would have stirred the heart of Maeterlinck! -flaming torches Rehind the hook and ladder was the hosecart, and then came a hand engine of the type our grandfathers used to drag to fires. After that, for two blocks, trailed a queue of water filled bogsheads on wheels. The cavalcade passed us in a cloud of dust, accompanied by the yells of the torch bearing fremen. When the supply of water ran out the carts dashed down to the river and were re-

menished. This crude high pressure service gave rise once to a rather humorous incident that the Irkutskians tell with after 3rd Monday in March, Wedgreat glee. During a fire several years ago a string of water wagons went down to the river, were filled and came rumbling back. When they reached the fire the water was gone. The enthusiastic captain of hogsheads bad neglected to put back the plugs in the barrels and had spilled his supply for several blocks along the main street.

#### TWO GREAT STARS.

Sirius Is the Brightest of All, and Canopus Comes Next.

The results of that instrument precision, the meridian photometer, are that Sirius is seven-tenths of a magnitude brighter than Canopus, which easily teaches that Sirius is brighter than any other star.

Canopus, next in brilliancy, is visible from all that portion of the world south of north latitude 37 degrees, since its declination is south 53 degrees

and 53 is the complement of 37. It therefore never rises above the south borizon of any point 37 degrees north. The latitude of this observatory is 34 degrees 17 minutes; bence Canopus rises very nearly 3 degrees above the watery wastes in the Pacific sea. Its low altitude makes it much fainter than higher Sirins, as the light must traverse layers of dust and water vapor near the earth's surface. Still it is magnificent, especially when

standing over a calm ocean surface. Canopus has no parallax that the highest power telemicrometers that or; R. T. Collins, Clerk; E. P. Thom-can be made are able to measure. This as, Treasurer. Members of Council is one of the most overwhelming facts

—Robert Hoover, P. B. Taylor, J. H. within the entire range of human ex-"I have no objection to taking you to my home," she said, "and I will easily prove to you that I am loyal to the to Canopus with the most powerful ton, Chairman; W. H. Barnes, Secreback this way, the base line, the entire and J. D. Duke. diameter of the orbit of the earth-185.764,000 miles-dwindles to a minute point too small to be measured by any microscope. Some idea may be bad of the immensity of the universe by waste the precious moments.-Edgar

### Uncle Sam's Antecedents.

A reader asks bow the name Uncle Sam came to be adopted for the imaginary genius who directs the desfinies of this nation. The answer is very simple. "Uncle Sam" is merely a popular expansion of the letters "U Albert Matthews once wrote a forty-five page monograph to prove this, and he showed that the expression went back to the year 1813. James Fenimore Cooper in "The Prairie" in 1827 spoke of "the well known initials that have \* \* \* gained for the govthat have \* \* gained for the gov meets every second and fourth Mon-erument of the United States the good day evenings. Miss Anna J. Patton, humored and quaint appellation of Un W. M.; Jas. H. Williams, W. B.; cle Sam."-New York Post.

Right to the Point. Some months ago excuvations were being made for new tracks on the line of a certain rallway. At one point a nearby resident obtained permission to remove a quantity of turf to resod the premises, the section foreman being instructed to notify the excavating "gang" when the resident should have secured all he desired.

The foreman's report is as follows: "The man that wanted the earth has got it."-Exchange.

His Busy Day.

"You say you called this morning on my bushand at his office? He's always no busy. Did you have any trouble in seeing him?"

"Yes, at first. He was sitting behind his desk, and I couldn't see him until be moved his feet."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Hit Both Ways.

Tramp-Yes, lady, I loved a girl. She wouldn't hev me, and I became a wanderer. Woman-Poor chap! If she had married you all would have been well. Tramp-Oh, I dunno Me friend out in de road dere is de feller wot got her!-Puck.

Not only strike when the iron is bot. but make it bot by striking.-Oliver Cromwell.

### Directory

but county

Circuit Court-T. F. Birkhead Judge; Ben D. Ringo, Attorney; W. P. Midkitt, Jailer; E. G. Barrass, Clerk; E. E. Birkhead, Master Comcity is plotted into district—each with the watchiower and watchiower. On the watchiower by day and night stands a guard who scales the house tops for a sign of smoke—when the fire has got enough headway for him convenes first Moneay in February. to see the smoke he gives the alarm and continues three weeks; third Monday in April, two weeks; third Monday in October two weeks.

County Court—R. R. Wedding, Judge; W. S. Hinsley, Clerk; C. E. Smith, Attorney, Hartford, Court convenes first Monday in each

Quarterly Court—Begins on the fourth Monday in February, May. August and November.
Court of Claims—Convenes first
Tuesday in January and first Tues-

day in October. Other County Officers-C. S. Moxley, Surveyor, Fordsville, Ky., R. F. D. No. 1; Bernard Felix, Assessor, Hartford, Ky., R. F. D. No. 2; Henry Leach, Superintendent, Hartford, Dr. A. B. Riley, Coroner, Hartford.

JUSTICES' COURTS. Leslie Combs, Hartford, Tuesday after 3rd Monday in March, Tuesday after 3rd Monday in June, Tuesda) after 3rd Monuay in September, Tuesday after 3rd Monday in December.

John H., Miles, Reckport, Friday after 3rd Monday in March, Friday after 3rd Monday in June, Friday after 3rd Monday in September, Friday after 3rd Monday in De-

O. E. Scott, Cromwell, Wednesday Wednesday after 3rd Monday in Sep-tember, Wednesday after 3rd Mon-

uay in December.

John H. Miles, Rockport, Friday
after 3rd Monday in March, Fricay
after 3rd Monday in June, Friday after 3rd Monday in September, Fri-

day after 3rd Monday in December.
J. C. Jackson, Centertown, Sat-urday after 3rd Mcnday in March, Saturday after 3rd Monday in June, Saturday after 3rd Monday in September, Saturday after 3rd Monday in December.

M. C. Cook, Renfrow, Tuesday af-ter 2nd Monday in March, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in May, Tuesday after 3rd Monday in August, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in November. Thomas Sanders, Olaton, Wednesday after the second Monday in March, Wednesday after 2nd Monday in May, Wednesday after 3rd Monday

day in November. Grant Pollard, Fordsville, Tuesday after 2nd Monday in March, Thurs-day after 2nd Monday in May, Thurs-day after 3rd Monday in August, Thursday after 2nd Monday in November.

in August, Wednesday after 2nd Mon

J. L. Patton, Ralph, Friday after 2nd Monday in March, Friday after 2nd Monday in May, Friday after 3rd Monday in August, Friday after 2nd Monday in November. HARTFORD POLICE COURT. C. M. Crowe, Judge; John B. Wil-son, City Attorney; J. P. Stevens,

Marshal; Court convenes second Monday in each month. City Council-J. H. Williams, May-B. Carson, E. P. Moore, Fred Cooper

telescope ever made, turns and looks tary; Dr. J. W. Taylor, W. S. Tinsley

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

M. E. Church, South-Services morning and evening every first and third Sunday in each month. Sun-day school 9:45 a. m. Prayer meetthinking of this fact during each spare ing every Wednesday evening. Rev. minute. Better to so think than to Saville, pastor, waste the precious moments.—Edgar Baptist Church—Services morning

Lucien Larkin in New York American and evening every second and fourth Sunday in each month. Sunday school 9:45 a. m. Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening. Rev. English, pastor. Christian Church—Services every fourth Sunday at 11 a. m. and 7, p. m. Sunday school 9:30 a. m. Elder W.

B. Wright pastor. Cumberland Presbyterian Church— Sunday school every Sunday at 9:45 SECRET SOCIETIES.

Hartford Lodge No. 675, F. and A. M. meets every first Monday night in each month. M. L. Heavrin, W. M.; Owen Hunter, Secretary. Hartford Chapter No. 84 O. E. S.

Miss Elizabeth Miller, Secretary.

Rough River Lodge No. 110 Knights of Pythias meets every Tuesday evening. W. F. Anderson, C. C.; J. Ney Foster, K. of R. & S. Hartford Tent No. 99, K. O. T. M.

meets every first and third Thursday nights. R. T. Collins, Commander; L. P. Foreman, Record Keeper. Acme Lodge No. 339 I. O. O. F. meets every second and fourth Fri-day nights in each month, C. M. Barnett, Noble Grand; W. R. Hedrick, Secretary.

Hartford Camp No. 202 W. O. W. meets every second and fourth Sat-urday nights in each month, Leslie Bennett, Council Commander; W. C.

Wallace, Clerk.

Sunshine Hive No. 42, L. O. T. M., meets every first and third Friday nights in each month, Mrs. Attye Griffin, Lady Commander; Mrs. Lula Pendleton, Lady Record Keeper.

Keystone Chapter No. 110, R. A.

M., meets every third Saturday night in each month. John T. Moore High

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2. E. C. Hartford, Reynolds, Ky.
3. M. S. Patterson, Olaton, Ky.
Alford, White Run, Ky. 3. M. S. Patterson, Olaton, Ky. 4. B. L. Alford, White Run, Ky. 5. Richard Plummer, Taylor Mines, Kentucky.

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